Amendments to the Abstract

Please **amend** the Abstract as follows:

~~The present invention relates to soft-decision decoding of Reed-Solomon product codes. According to the invention, a~~ A method <u>and apparatus</u> for error correction of an encoded data stream<u>.</u> ~~comprises the steps of: saving the~~ <u>A</u> demodulated data stream <u>is saved</u> in an input buffer ~~2; performing a~~ . <u>A</u> first correction process is performed on-the-fly in the input buffer ~~2; transferring the~~ . <u>The</u> data <u>is transferred</u> to an external SDRAM ~~3~~ after correction~~; copying a~~ . <u>A</u> data frame <u>is copied</u> from the external SDRAM ~~3~~ to an embedded SRAM ~~11; starting a~~ . <u>A</u> multipass correction <u>is started</u> in the embedded SRAM ~~11; and copying the~~ . <u>The</u> corrected data frame <u>is copied</u> back from the embedded SRAM ~~11~~ to the external SDRAM ~~3~~.